



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KRUEGER ET AL. Examiner: UNKNOWN
Serial No.: 10/665,760 Group Art Unit: 3736
Filed: SEPTEMBER 19, 2003 Docket: 13033.11US01
Confirmation No.: 6987
Title: AIRWAY IMPLANT CARTRIDGE AND KIT

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 30, 2004.

By: Aeresa Morgan

Name: Aeresa Morgan

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 11 Reference(s)
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

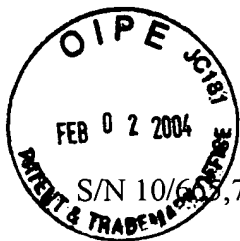
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: David G. Schmaltz

Name: David G. Schmaltz

Reg. No.: 39,828

DSchmaltz:PLStdM



PATENT

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By: 

Name: Teresa Morgan

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked

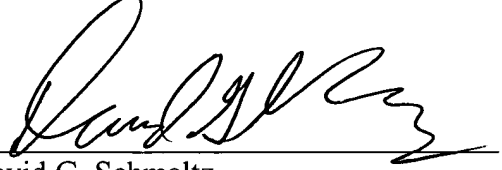
as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P. O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
612.332.5300

Date 11/29/04


David G. Schmaltz
Reg. No. 39,828
DGS:PLStdm



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| FORM 1019 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary) | Docket Number: 13033.11US01 | Application Number: 10/665,760 |
| | Applicant: KRUEGER ET AL. | |
| | Filing Date: 09/19/2003 | Group Art Unit: 3736 |

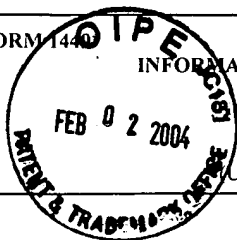
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------|----------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | 5,284,161 | 02/08/1994 | Karell | | | |
| | 5,456,662 | 10/10/1995 | Edwards et al. | | | |
| | 5,514,131 | 05/07/1996 | Edwards et al. | | | |
| | 5,674,191 | 10/07/1997 | Edwards et al. | | | |
| | 5,718,702 | 02/17/1998 | Edwards | | | |
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| | 5,988,171 | 11/23/1999 | Sohn et al. | | | |
| | 6,098,629 | 08/08/2000 | Johnson et al. | | | |
| | 6,250,307 B1 | 06/26/2001 | Conrad et al. | | | |
| | 6,431,174 B1 | 08/13/2002 | Knudson et al. | | | |
| | 6,513,530 B2 | 02/04/2003 | Knudson et al. | | | |
| | 6,523,542 B2 | 02/25/2003 | Knudson et al. | | | |
| | 6,578,580 B2 | 06/17/2003 | Conrad et al. | | | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
| | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | | | | | | | |

| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | |
|--|--|---|
| | | Boudewyns, A. et al., "Temperature-controlled Radiofrequency Tissue Volume Reduction of the Soft Palate (Somnoplasty [®]) in the Treatment of Habitual Snoring: Results of a European Multicenter Trial," <i>Acta Otolaryngol</i> , Vol. 120, pp. 981-985 (2000). |
| | | Brietzke, S. et al., "Injection snoreplasty: How to treat snoring without all the pain and expense," <i>Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery</i> , Vol. 124, No. 5, pp. 503-510 (May 2001). |
| | | Cole, P. et al., "Snoring: A Review and a Reassessment," <i>The Journal of Otolaryngology</i> , Vol. 24, No. 5, pp. 303-306 (1995). |
| | | Coleman, S. et al., "Midline radiofrequency tissue reduction of the palate for bothersome snoring and sleep-disordered breathing: A clinical trial," <i>Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery</i> , Vol. 122, No. 3, pp. 387-394 (March 2000). |

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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
| EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant. | |

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| FORM 1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary) | Docket Number: 13033.11US01 | Application Number: 10/665,760 |
| | Applicant: KRUEGER ET AL. | |
| | Filing Date: 09/19/2003 | Group Art Unit: 3736 |



| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | |
|--|--|---|
| | | Harries, P. et al., "Review Article, The surgical treatment of snoring," <i>The Journal of Laryngology and Otology</i> , Vol. 110, pp. 1105-1106 (December 1996). |
| | | Huang, L. et al., "Biomechanics of snoring," <i>Endeavour</i> , Vol. 19, No. 3, pp. 96-100 (1995). |
| | | LaFrentz et al., "Palatal Stiffening Techniques for Snoring in a Novel Canine Model," <i>Abstracts of the Twenty-Second Annual Mid Winter Research Meeting of the Association for Research in Otolaryngology</i> , Abstract No. 499, Vol. 22, p. 125-126 (February 13-18, 1999). |
| | | Lorenz, C., "If he Snores-what can you do about it," <i>Today's Woman</i> , 2 pgs. (July 1948). |
| | | Parker, J., "Clinical Scientific Feature, An Overview of Snoring and Obstructive Sleep Apnea, Part One: Evaluation and Diagnosis," <i>Northwest Dentistry</i> , pp. 17-22 (January-February 1995). |
| | | Schwartz, R. et al., "Effects of electrical stimulation to the soft palate on snoring and obstructive sleep apnea," <i>The Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry</i> , Vol. 76, No. 3, pp. 273-281 (September 1996). |
| | | Wiltfang, J. et al., "First results on daytime submandibular electrostimulation of suprahyoidal muscles to prevent night-time hypopharyngeal collapse in obstructive sleep apnea syndrome," <i>International Journal of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery</i> , Vol. 28, pp. 21-25 (1999). |

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